



## Buy Tax-Free Emergency Prep Supplies April 28-30

With hurricane season just a month away, the last week of April is a great time for Texans to stock up on supplies you might need for an emergency – and save money at the same time.

Take advantage of the Texas Comptroller's Emergency Preparation Supplies Sales Tax Holiday to purchase emergency preparation supplies tax-free. This year's holiday begins at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, April 28, and ends at midnight Monday, April 30.

Qualifying items include batteries, flashlights, fuel containers and hurricane shutters. There is no limit on the number of qualifying items you can purchase, but there are sales price limits on items. For example, you can purchase a portable generator priced at less than \$3,000 including delivery, shipping, handling and transportation charges.

For more information, and a list of qualifying supplies, visit <https://go.usa.gov/xQZd9>.

### Keep Informed

For more information on Hurricane Harvey and Texas recovery, visit:  
[www.fema.gov/hurricane-harvey](http://www.fema.gov/hurricane-harvey)

or the Texas Division of Emergency Management at: [www.dps.texas.gov/dem/](http://www.dps.texas.gov/dem/)



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### Join the Conversation with 12K Facebook Followers

Been to [facebook.com/FEMAHarvey/](https://facebook.com/FEMAHarvey/) lately? Check out the page to get the schedule for mitigation specialists visiting local improvement stores, learn tips to help you prepare for the upcoming hurricane season and visit the video section to watch a recent Facebook Live event for ideas on what to put in your emergency preparedness kit.



### TSA Extended for Some Harvey Survivors

Some participants in FEMA's Transitional Shelter Assistance (TSA) program were granted extensions to stay in hotels up to May 31. TSA participants are temporarily unable to return to uninhabitable or inaccessible homes. For more information, visit <https://go.usa.gov/xQZGb>. Survivors with questions about their TSA status can call the FEMA Helpline at **800-621-3362**.

### SBA Loan Application Deadline Approaches

May 25 is the deadline to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration. Small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives and nonprofits can receive up to \$2 million to meet obligations and pay operating expenses, regardless of whether the business suffered property damage from Harvey. Businesses are eligible only if unable to obtain credit elsewhere. For more information,



U.S. Small Business Administration

visit [sba.gov/](http://sba.gov/) or call **800-659-2955** (TTY: **800-877-8339**).

### Stay in Touch

For updates on your application status or appeals, visit:  
**www.DisasterAssistance.gov**  
**800-621-3362** (711 or VRS) OR **800-462-7585** (TTY)

To find the nearest Disaster Recovery Center, visit: [www.fema.gov/drc](http://www.fema.gov/drc)



Photo By: Garrett Rountree

## Mauriceville Students Enjoy New Classrooms

Students of Mauriceville Elementary School and Mauriceville Middle School in Orange County now have safe classrooms and clean supplies thanks to local charities and state and federal partners.

When Harvey's floodwaters receded, 850 students had no useable classroom. Some attended class at the high school, while others shared space at a church. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, meanwhile, located modular buildings, created foundations and connected utilities. After three months of work, students returned Feb. 19.

Throughout the delay, teachers worked hard to keep students focused. "Meet some of the most resilient middle schoolers on planet Earth!" teacher Brooke Deets wrote in a post shared on Mauriceville Middle School's Facebook page. "These kids came in and were ready to learn."

Read more about the community's support at <https://go.usa.gov/xQ2ys>.

## Elevation, Flood Insurance Protect Restaurants

Dickinson has been hit hard by catastrophic storms in the past, so when Harvey arrived, restaurateur Keith Lilley was ready. Both his restaurants were covered by flood insurance, and he had built his newer restaurant, Marais, 17 feet above the base flood elevation. Floodwaters have an estimated 1 percent chance of reaching the base flood elevation in any given year.

Marais was spared devastation, but Lilley's other eatery, Dickinson Bar-B-Que, took on more than 3 feet of water. With the payout from his flood policy, though, Lilley quickly rebuilt. "Flood insurance is a no-brainer," he said. "It cost me only \$2,100 a year with a \$1,200 deductible."



Read more at <https://go.usa.gov/xQWfJ>.

## Cemeteries Host Rebuilding Workshops in Houston, Corpus

Hurricane Harvey damaged headstones and landscaping at many Texas cemeteries. To restore the sites and prepare for the future, FEMA's Interagency Recovery Coordination group helped organize workshops at Houston's Olivewood Cemetery and Corpus Christi's Old Bayview Cemetery.



Photo By: Jason Church, National Park Service

The training included presentations on disaster preparedness plans, fixing landscape damage, vegetation removal and stone monument cleaning and repair. In all, 64 city planners, cemetery managers and other workers attended.

Learn more about the workshops at <https://go.usa.gov/xQWff>.

## May Is the Month to Educate Yourself About Flood Insurance

Go to [facebook.com/FEMAHarvey](https://facebook.com/FEMAHarvey), [twitter.com/femaregion6](https://twitter.com/femaregion6) and [www.fema.gov/disaster/4332](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4332) next week and throughout May to learn how the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) can protect you from disaster. Find out who can buy NFIP (hint: renters are eligible), what the benefits are and what you need to do to ensure you're covered.

Texas NFIP 2018 is a whole month dedicated to sharing tips with Texans about how they can prepare themselves and their homes for hurricane season. Use **#TXNFIP18** to find information online and ask questions to educate yourself and to share information with your friends and family.

**36** DAYS UNTIL  
**HURRICANE  
SEASON**  
JUNE 1, 2018

